



**Shrewsbury Public Schools
Massachusetts 01545**

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FY05 New Initiative Requests

In July 1993 the Massachusetts Legislature passed the *Education Reform Act*. The law is a mandate for public school improvement and carries with it a variety of requirements to measure and promote school improvement. The most visible of these measures to assess student performance and school improvement is the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Additionally, the Governor's Office recently established *The Office of Educational Quality and Accountability*. This department is charged to evaluate the performance of all public, vocational and charter schools on an annual basis.

Students in Shrewsbury perform well on a variety of measures, including MCAS, the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), and Advanced Placement Examinations. Each year the School Department attempts to make modest improvements to the educational program at each level of the district. The new initiative portion of the budget is designed to allow principals and program directors to make proposals for improvement. These new initiatives allow for modest program improvements each year.

Each year many strong proposals are presented for equipment, personnel, instructional materials/textbooks, and professional development. For FY05 a total of \$611,371 was requested. Following a review at the Central Office, \$155,814 of requests is recommended for funding.

The chart below summarizes the requests by category.

Category	Requested	Recommended
Equipment	\$ 67,473	\$ 7,000
Instructional Materials & Textbooks	\$121,344	\$ 85,814
Personnel	\$422,554	\$ 63,000
Professional Development	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$611,371	\$155,814

The following pages provide further detail on each request.